review/cadre restructuring etc.

UN Population Fund's Programme for India

3277. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the UN Population Fund has offered a five year $ 100m. programme for India;

(b) if so. the details of the programme; and

(c) the steps being taken to implement the programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) to (c) The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has approved assistance of US $ 100 million over the period 1997—2001 for India. The Projects to be taken up are being formulated, and will fall broadly into the following three categories:—

(i) Reproductive Health (ii) Population and Development (iii) Advocacy.

Transmission of Cancer in Hereditary Manner

3278. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the information available with Government about the transmission of cancer in hereditary manner and the role of the P 53 gene on the chromosomes;

(b) whether any research is going on in our country in this area; and

(c) now will this information help influence our cancer control strategy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) Majority of cancers are spontaneous due to mutation or alternation of normal body genes. If such gene mutation occurs in sperms or ova, it results in hereditary cancers. Such mutations are not very common. P 53 gene supresses tumour development by controlling cell proliferation and genomic stability in the body, and mutation or deletion of this gene have also been observed to be associated with development of cancer.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The knowledge on genetic changes in cancer is still at research level and may not determine cancer control strategies at this stage.

Research on the Role of Testosterone in Body in the Process of Human Aging

3279. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether research on the role of Testosterone in the body in the process of human aging is being done in our country;

(b) if so, details thereof in terms of location and individuals engaged in it;

(c) what are the results obtained uptill now; and

(d) what steps will be taken to modify our policies towards the aged, based on this research?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) and (b) No such research has been undertaken under the aegis of the Indian Council of Medical Research.

(c) and (d) Studies conducted abroad on the effects of ageing on endocrine and metabolic functions have indicated that there is a gradual decline in scrum

testosterone levels with ageing. These changes are quite subtle.

Money spent on purchase of spongcstone Gels

3280. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge amount of money has been spent for the purchase of spongcstone gels and they arc lying unused; and

(b) whether any action has been taken against the persons who are responsible for such purchase?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) and (b) There is no report of excess purchase of songcstoncgel from any of the Government Hospitals in Delhi except G.B. Pant Hospital. The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has informed that the matter has been referred to an 'Expert Committee' for investigation.

Menace of Quacks

3281. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY- WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a recent survey, nearly 33% of the total medical practitioners in the National Capital have been found to be quacks; number of such quacks all over the country;

(b) effective steps taken by the Government to check the growing menance of quacks practitioners in Allopathic medicine in the country;

(c) whether Government propose to enact a low to prohibit and punish such persons; and

(d) whether Registered Medical Practitioners (RMP) cartificatcs arc being awarded by fictitious and unqualified institutions operating from motor garages, if so, the action taken against such institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) No such survey has been conducted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

(b) and (c) Pencl provisions already exist in the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 as well as in the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970 and the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 to the effect that no person other than a medical practitioner enrolled on the State Medical Register shall practice medicine in any State and any person contravening this provision shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with find which may extend to one thousand rupees, or with both. The Government of India had advised the State Govcrnmcnts/U.Ts. to take action against unqualified practitioners.

(d) No information about institutions operating from motor garages has been received.

Development of an Error free Method to Detect AIDS

3282. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India have developed an error-free method to detect the deadly AIDS virus;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it has been patented; and

(d) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) and (b) An